

## BCCC STUDENTS CELEBRATE HISTORIC PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION



*“It is a time of such hope and optimism  
for so many in the country...”*

As Barack Obama took the oath that would officially make him the 44th President of the United States, students of Baltimore City Community College paused to witness a moment in history they may never forget. Almost giddy with excitement, they gathered in front of big television screens placed around the Liberty and Harbor campuses to allow them, along with faculty and staff, to share the experience that captured world-wide attention.

Whether with smiles, tears, high-fives or cheers, the BCCC on-lookers greeted the Inauguration of Barack Obama with pure elation. A number had participated in the very successful student-driven non-partisan voter registration drive conducted throughout the College community last fall.

The excitement carried over into the BCCC ball held at the Liberty Campus café that evening. Co-sponsored by Student Activities, the Student Governance Board and the staff of the Crier newsletter, the semi-formal event featured the jazz/R&B band, the Bobby Rucks Group. Addressing the attendees, Dr. Alicia Harvey-Smith, Vice President for Student

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## *From the Desk of the Vice President of Student Affairs*

Welcome back to the Spring 2009 semester. I hope that you had a wonderful holiday season and have returned to BCCC refocused and energized to achieve both academic and personal success. As you continue your studies, I remind you of the importance and power of the choices you make. These choices will have tremendous impact on your future. I also encourage you to set clear and reachable goals and to work with your faculty and our college staff to develop a plan for reaching them.

Throughout the semester, you will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of workshops and activities. I hope you will take full advantage of these opportunities and that you will let us know how we can further support your success. Please email your suggestions to Ms. Siatta Stewart at [ss Stewart@bccc.edu](mailto:ss Stewart@bccc.edu). Have a wonderful semester. Here's to you and Success and Making the Connection.

Fondly,  
Dr. Alicia B. Harvey-Smith

## **It's Easy Being Green**

Join the Student Affairs Division in going Green.

The spring 2009 edition of the Student Affairs Network Newsletter will be available to students, faculty, and staff through the BCCC website, Blackboard and e-mail. This is an exciting move toward going "Green" for the College and the division.

Open computer labs at the Liberty and Harbor campuses as well as the Bard Libraries, provide access to computers.

## **P.E. Center Upgrades Create a Conducive Learning Environment**



Have you visited the Physical Education Center (P.E. Center) lately? If so, you've probably noticed the facility has a fresh, new look, thanks to major upgrades.

The Center's transformation began with revitalizing the gym floor this summer. It has been repainted and features the school's new Panther logo. Improvements have been made to the basketball backboards, and new volleyball nets have

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been purchased for the women's volleyball team. We have also added a cardio-room with state-of-the-art equipment for students taking health and fitness classes.

In December, renovations began to replace all of the Center's fitness equipment; it will also be state-of-the-art. The training room used to tend to the injuries of student-athletes has also been revived with new equipment. Green plants have also been added to the lobby area to make the Center more attractive. While important improvements will still need to be made, these are significant upgrades to a critical facility that hasn't undergone major work since 1994.

"It's good to finally get the upgrades we need, in order to show the type of commitment we have for our student athletes," said Esther Johnson, head volleyball coach. "As we improve our cosmetic complexion in the Center, we will be able to draw more talented and determined students

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*Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Alicia B. Harvey-Smith making presentation to Chaplain Smith of Karis Home*

## *Student Affairs Makes Generous Donation to Homeless Shelter*

The Student Affairs Division of BCCC made a generous holiday donation to Chaplain Bernard Smith of Karis Home, a homeless shelter in downtown Baltimore. Dr. Alicia B. Harvey-Smith, Vice President for Student Affairs made the presentation on December 12, 2008, during the Student Affairs Awards and Recognition Program.

The BCCC donation to the shelter included new clothing for women and children, toys, and non-perishable food items. Chaplain Smith was accompanied by Deacon Willard Washington, who helped pick up the items collected by the student affairs staff.

The Karis Home and the Baltimore Rescue Mission is an emergency overnight shelter located in downtown Baltimore. "We minister to the lost, the least and the left out," said Chaplain Smith.

The backbone of the ministry, which is 50 years old, is supported by groups like BCCC, area churches, and public donors. The Christian shelter provides meal service to more than 500 people every night. Meanwhile, the Baltimore Rescue

Mission has the capacity to house 200 men every evening, and some 50 women and children. Gospel services are held nightly, Bible study is held Monday through Friday, and one-on-one discipleship with staff members occurs daily. There is also a GED program, monthly HIV / AIDS testing, mental health counseling, and a five-day detoxification program, with spiritual counseling. The Mission refers clients from detox to extended drug treatment programs in the region.

For more information on how you can volunteer, contact Chaplain Smith at 410-342-2534.

The Student Affairs Division will continue to support the needy by donating to local charities in the future.

*"We minister to the lost, the least and the left out..."*

# SUCCESS IS YOURS!

## KEYS TO SUCCESS AND A GUIDE TO TUTORIAL SERVICES

The Center for Academic Achievement (CAA) provides tutoring in English, math and reading. Tutorial services are provided free of charge to individuals or groups of students. Drop-ins are welcome.

The Center for Academic Achievement (CAA) is your center for tutorial services and study skills enrichment. The CAA publishes new **Keys to Success** every week.

**Keys to Success** are weekly tools for improving your academic performance. Students can access the Keys on Blackboard, or you may see them posted around campus. You can ask your instructor for a copy or pick up additional copies in the Center for Academic Achievement – Main 104.

### WAYS TO USE THE KEYS TO SUCCESS

- Post them on your refrigerator or mirror at home.
- Insert them in your binder or notebook and carry them with you.

- Keep a copy on your desk or work table.
- Review the weekly “Key” every day, and make a note to practice the weekly strategy.

### TUTORIAL SERVICES AND STUDY HELP

Are you looking for some help with your academic life here at BCCC? Be sure to stop by the Center for Academic Achievement (CAA) or any of the satellite tutorial sites around campus. All tutorial sites are devoted to helping you with your academic career. The CAA offers tutoring in English, math and reading. Visit the Math Learning Center (MLC) to improve your grades in math; go to the Science Resource Learning Center (SRLC) for assistance with biology, chemistry and physics. Last but not least, the Business Accounting Tutorial Lab offers help with accounting, BCA and CADD.

For information about locations

contact Juanita Wingo, Coordinator of Tutorial Services/Center for Academic Achievement: 410-462-7759.

**STUDY GROUPS** are formed during the first week of classes. Plan to join a study group or start one of your own. Any member of the CAA Team can assist you. Come to Main 104 to sign up.

**SMARTHINKING** offers you 24/7 tutorial help when you need it. Contact the CAA for more information on this online tutoring service.

### ACADEMIC SUCCESS WORKSHOPS

Knowing how to study, manage your time and your personal relationships can make your life much easier. Come to the Academic Success Workshops offered throughout the year. The workshops offer invaluable strategies for academic success.

Good luck in your quest for academic success. Remember to use those Keys!

## *Let Success Seminars Open the Door to Your Academic Success*

Vocational Support Services (VSS) offers seminars designed to improve the academic skills of students in Perkins Career and Technology Education (CTE) programs. The Success Seminars begin on **Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at Noon** in the Learning Enrichment and Resource Center, Main 117-H.

Students in CTE programs who might benefit from academic skill enrichment or whom

are referred by instructors are encouraged to register.

The seminars are an active intervention strategy that is an integral component of the retention programming of VSS. The series is structured to assist CTE students' progress toward the completion of their chosen career programs.

Among the topics to be covered are:

- **Self Esteem:** “A Brand New You”

- **Stress Management:** “Stress Reduction: Self-Care Techniques”
- **Time Management:** “Get a Grip on Your Daily Schedule”
- **How to Study:** “Effective Study Skills”
- **Setting Priorities:** “It’s Important to Know What’s Important”

Schedules of the spring success seminar are available in the following locations:

**The Office of Student Development**-Main 117

**Center for Academic Achievement**-Main 104

**Student Affairs**, Harbor Campus-Bard 101

**Mrs. Hennigan’s Office**-Main 07-A

### The Welcome Station

For more information, contact:  
Juanita Wingo,  
Coordinator  
410-462-7759, Main 117-B  
jwingo@bccc.edu

Sharon Hennigan,  
Retention Specialist  
410-462-8332, Main 07-A  
shennigan@bccc.edu

# BCCC STUDENTS CELEBRATE HISTORIC PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

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Affairs, noted: "The BCCC student ball, was a wonderful way to mark the historic inauguration of President Barack Obama. The faces of faculty, staff and students and their family members expressed such pride as we all celebrated this special moment in history. It is a time of such hope and optimism for so many in the country and for so many of our students who have internalized this special moment in time in a way that I hope will inspire them to achieve great things."

## BCCC ANNOUNCES WEDS PROGRAM FOR SPRING 2009 SEMESTER

WEDS stands for Women with Extraordinary Determination for Success. WEDS is an accelerated degree program that targets African American women.

WEDS offers custom tailored / prescribed programs and services, and also provides mentoring, coaching, tutoring and special workshops for women. For more information on this program, contact Kathy Styles at 410-462-8365 or Ja'Hon Vance at 410-462-7745.

## Helping to Nurture Positive Men



The BCCC Positive Men's Movement is moving ahead with its mission to provide support and encouragement to male students.

On November 19, 2008, about 25 men gathered at the Gaare Auditorium to discuss how membership in this student organization would benefit them personally, academically and professionally. During the meeting, students shared various ideas about the challenges faced by male students. They also discussed a series of future community service projects.

There are two components to the Positive Men's Movement, including a support group and mentoring. Various BCCC male faculty and staff have agreed to provide mentorship to these students.

### TOP 10 FACTS ABOUT POSITIVE MEN'S MOVEMENT

1. We are a support group for male students
2. Positive Men's Movement was established in 1994
3. Our program encourages self-improvement and self-awareness
4. Positive Men's Movement encourages male students to reach their maximum human potential
5. We support personal, academic, and career development
6. Positive Men's Movement engages in community service projects
7. We offer mentoring by BCCC faculty and staff
8. Our meetings encourage members to develop social networks
9. The Positive Men's Movement Support Group meets bi-weekly
10. Membership in this program is open to all male students

The members of the steering committee are Dean Ron Smith, Donald Smith, Andre Williams, Thomas Phillips, Edward Chong Qui, Michael Shaw, Daniel Turner, Corey McKinney, Vincent Whitmore, Quentin Purvis-King and Nana Gyesie. Please direct any male students interested in the program to any member of the steering committee.

For more information on the Positive Men's Movement, please call Corey McKinney at 410-462-8561.

# FEBRUARY 28th is NATIONAL TRIO DAY

BCCC students, graduates, faculty and staff are among hundreds of colleges and community-based agencies across the country, set to mark National TRIO Day on Saturday, February 28.

TRIO programs at BCCC consist of Student Support Services, Talent Search and Upward Bound. According to a 1986 Congressional resolution, National TRIO DAY turns the nation's "attention to the needs of disadvantaged young people and adults aspiring to improve their lives, to the investment necessary if they are to become contributing citizens of the country, and to the talent which will be wasted if that investment is not made."

The BCCC TRIO family appreciates the administration and campus community for being supportive throughout the years.

## What is TRIO?

TRIO programs help students overcome class, social and cultural barriers to higher education. The name refers to a group of programs (initially, there were three) funded under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, all designed to help low-income Americans enter college, graduate and participate more fully in America's economy and society. Today, there are seven TRIO programs: Talent Search; Upward Bound; Upward Bound Math Science; Veterans Upward Bound; Student Support Services; Educational Opportunity Centers; and Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement.

## Why Do We Need TRIO Programs?

- To create a true opportunity-based society;
- To address invisible barriers (i.e. cultural, academic, class, social);
- To prevent the waste of human capital.

## Why Do TRIO Programs Work?

- Individually focused, intensive programs;
- Non-bureaucratic (i.e. direct services to students);
- Many TRIO teachers and counselors have had to overcome invisible barriers and can effectively relate to students facing similar obstacles.

## Are TRIO Programs Really Effective?

- An estimated 2 million students have graduated from college thanks to the support and assistance of our nation's TRIO Programs.
- TRIO has helped to reduce defaults in the federal student loan program by helping low-income Americans understand their financial aid obligations; it has also helped students avoid unscrupulous institutions that promise more than they can deliver.
- The majority of TRIO graduates go on to attend four-year colleges.

## What Distinguishes TRIO Programs?

- TRIO Programs provide opportunity, not maintenance of poverty.
- TRIO Programs are integrated into the higher education system.
- TRIO provides tools and orientation to move individuals to economic independence.
- TRIO Programs are focused on attainment of a college degree, not artificial assistance or support.

## What are the Invisible Barriers?

TRIO Programs help students to overcome class, social, cultural and academic barriers. Many students come to TRIO from neighborhoods which are filled with violence, discouragement, negativity, and hopelessness. In most cases, students in the TRIO Programs are poor and are desperately trying to climb out of the vicious cycle of poverty in America.

Many students in the TRIO Talent Search Program and the TRIO Upward Bound Programs are accustomed to school systems which are underfunded and understaffed. A single-parent raising several children, an older child helping to raise several children, a physically disabled person with few financial resources and a struggling high school student trying to escape a life of poverty describes the young people and adults who turn to the TRIO Programs for help and special assistance.

## How are TRIO Programs Funded?

The continued funding for each program is dependent upon meeting quantifiable objectives related to college entrance and graduation rates.

## Where are TRIO Graduates Employed?

TRIO graduates are working in business, industry and government. Medicine, law, education, communications, sales, finance, politics, transportation, publishing, law enforcement, computer science and technology, engineering and accounting are just some of the fields where TRIO college graduates are now employed.

## HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

For additional information on TRIO, log onto: [www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio](http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio) or [www.coenet.us](http://www.coenet.us)  
Students may also call or e-mail the following individuals:

Mrs. Tope Aje, Director, TRIO/SSS-STAIRS Program • 410-462-8399 • [taje@bccc.edu](mailto:taje@bccc.edu)

Mr. Greg Hunter, Director, Upward Bound Program • 410-462-7435 • [ghunter@bccc.edu](mailto:ghunter@bccc.edu)

Ms. Jean Richie, Director, Talent Search • 410-462-7455 • [jrichie@bccc.edu](mailto:jrichie@bccc.edu)

## Phi Theta Kappa Inducts New Members

On Monday, December 8, 2008 the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society (PTK) inducted 76 new members into Baltimore City Community College's Theta Alpha Chapter. Membership into the Honor Society requires a cumulative GPA of 3.4 and at least 24 credits completed at BCCC. The Theta Alpha Chapter accepts applications twice a year for membership into the organization. The next induction of new members will take place in the spring semester. If you are a current student and have a GPA of 3.4 with at least 24 completed credits please contact Julia Pitman, 410-462-8380 or [jpitman@bcc.edu](mailto:jpitman@bcc.edu) to receive an application for PTK membership.

Congratulations December 2008 Inductees Theta Alpha Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society

Jolaade Adeyeye	Malcolm Favor	Blanche Nzeutom
Mojisola Ajikobi	Shannel Fauntleroy	Helen Odeh
Patricia Ajuchi	Christopher Gibson	Angelique Oglesby
Olusegun Akinsola	Tiffany Gosnell	Joseph Oke
Fatema Akter	Kassahun Hailu	Charles Okorom
Collin Allen	Kemardo Henry	Olayinka Owolabi
Fernita Alston	Ihuoma Iheukwumere	Garmina Pandey
Faith Amuzu	Mary Ihezie	Sade Parham
Veronciah Banga	Emelica Jack	Dorcas Philips
Marcia Barnwell	Yolanda Jackson	Sarina Pradhanaga
Crystle Baze	Liban Jama	Amber Puglionesi
Joy Bivens	Joanne Jenkins	Jobita Risal
Blazer Lara Bonifacio	Ganda Kamissoko	Gloria Rolling
James Branch	Hazel Keys	Arun Shrestha
Tatiana Brayton	Himani Khatri	Nilima Shrestha
Seon Brown	Abiola Kilkenny	Damilola Siaka-Steven
Maria Carrera	Sugan Koirala	William Stokes
Travis Case	Sandrine Kojidie	Jagdishwar Subedi
Patricia Coffman	Raymond Kratochvil	Cynthia Swiss
Desiree Coleman	Regina Levons	Evgenia Syanova
Sylvester Conn	Michelle Lima	Chiazur Unamka
Monica Cooper	Sheila Mbambo	Apala Upadhyay
Ilisha Dongol	Reginald McFadden	Tatyana Vekker
Mohamed Dombia	Veda Moore	Atiya Wells
Caroline Duru	Naomi Mputu	Wanda Williams
Precious Evans	Diana Myers	Maurice Willis

## BCCC SPRING TRANSFER DAY DRAWS CROWD

225 BCCC students participated in the spring 2009 Transfer Day held on Thursday, February 19 at the Liberty Campus. Representatives from 24 colleges and universities from Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, D.C. participated, including Howard University, Johns Hopkins School of Business, University of Maryland, Towson University, Morgan State University and Frostburg State University.

A series of workshops held before and during the main event prepared students for the transfer process. Students received information about what types of questions to ask and how to get the most out of ARTSYS - the Maryland Articulation System transfer website. The system helps students determine if class credits will transfer to Maryland colleges and universities.

Don't miss the fall Transfer Day scheduled for Thursday, October 29. Come out and get great information that will help build your academic future!

## Health Care Coverage For Those Who Need It

Are you in need of health insurance? Well, now is the time to see if you are eligible to receive coverage.

### What is the program?

The Medical Assistance Program for Families is a new health insurance program passed during the special session of the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis at the end of 2007. The program began on July 1, and offers Maryland families earning up to \$24,600 (for a family of four) full health coverage. Before this landmark legislation passed, a family of four could earn only \$6,361 a year in order to be eligible; now, hardworking families can get the coverage that they need.

### Who is eligible?

Children, parents, as well as other family members caring for children may be able to get Medical Assistance. Go to [www.bcha.org](http://www.bcha.org) and check the income chart to determine if you may be eligible.

### Which benefits are included?

The plan offers free comprehensive health care coverage. Coverage includes:

- Doctor's visits
- Visits with specialists
- Emergency room visits
- Hospital stays and other services
- Free or low-cost prescriptions

### How do I apply?

- Online at [www.marylandSAIL.org](http://www.marylandSAIL.org)
- By mail or fax, by printing an application at [www.dhmf.state.md.us/ma4families/html/application.htm](http://www.dhmf.state.md.us/ma4families/html/application.htm)
- Call 1-800-456-8900 to have an application sent to you
- Call 311 to have an application sent to you, and assistance completing the application

For additional health care options, go to: [www.dhmf.state.md.us/gethealthcare](http://www.dhmf.state.md.us/gethealthcare)  
For more information, call the **Medical Assistance Hotline at 1-800-456-8900.**



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Baltimore, MD 21215-7893

**HARBOR CAMPUS**

Bard Building  
600 E. Lombard Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202-4073

**Business and Continuing  
Education Division**

710 E. Lombard Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202-4073

STATE OF MARYLAND • Martin O'Malley, Governor

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**P.E. Center Upgrades** *continued from page 3*

to become a part of this winning program, on and off the court."

Indeed, BCCC president Dr. Williams noted in a recent e-mail to the college community that because learning is the core of our mission, everything that the college does should in some way, improve learning. Providing facilities that support the teaching and learning enterprise is extremely important. If we want students to improve their health, we need to promote wellness education. Students must learn how to prevent illness—physically, mentally and otherwise.

For instance, the cardio-room will provide faculty with a "laboratory" in which to stimulate student thought and practice about the importance of cardiovascular health. The new Center will enable Health and Fitness

instructors to teach the importance of physical fitness as a part of overall good health. When the equipment is in disrepair, it can become a distraction to student learning. While the classroom is where formal learning takes place, there are other spaces outside the classroom where informal learning occurs. For example, the gymnasium floor becomes a teaching and learning environment for coaches and student-athletes.

The entire BCCC community can feel good about the improvements being made in the P.E. Center. They represent an improved environment for professors to teach and students to become engaged in learning. The fitness room is open to all registered BCCC students, faculty and staff with proper ID.

**SAVE THE DATE**

*for  
Graduation!*

**BCCC'S  
COMMENCEMENT**

**Saturday, June 6, 2009**

**10 am**

**First Mariner Arena**

*Details will be available  
on the BCCC website  
in April 2009*